

Warden Branch, Grand Coulee Stake, formed by division of Moses Lake Second Ward.

Maricopa Indian Branch, Phoenix Stake, formed by division of Phoenix Sixth Ward.

Prosser Branch, Richland Stake, formerly dependent on Sunnyside Ward.

Randlett Branch, Roosevelt Stake (Indian Branch—membership taken from several wards.)

Promontory Branch, South Bear River Stake, formerly dependent on Penrose Ward.

Tod Park Branch, Tooele Stake, formed by consolidation of East Tod Park and West Tod Park Branches.

Spanish-American Branch, Weber Stake, membership taken from several Wards.

WARDS AND INDEPENDENT BRANCHES DISCONTINUED

Iona Branch, Big Horn Stake, membership transferred to Lovell Second Ward.

Marion Ward, Cassia Stake, membership transferred to Oakley First and Oakley Second Wards.

Oakley Third Ward, Cassia Stake, membership transferred to Oakley and Oakley Second Wards.

Bryce Ward, St. Joseph Stake, membership transferred to Pima Ward.

Eden Ward, St. Joseph Stake, membership transferred to Pima Ward.

Thatcher and Penrose Wards, South Bear River Stake, merged to make Thatcher-Penrose Ward.

East Tod Park Branch and West Tod Park Branch merged to make Tod Park Branch.

STATISTICAL AND FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Information of the Members of the Church

The First Presidency issues the following statement of items concerning the condition and operation of the Church for the year 1954. The statement will include three sections: First, Statistical Information; Second, Financial Data; and Third, Miscellaneous Items.

I. STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Number of Stakes of Zion, at end of 1954	219
Number of Wards	1,757
Number of Independent Branches	236
Total Wards and Independent Branches, at end of year	1,993
Number of Missions	42
 <i>Church Membership, December 31, 1954:</i>	
In the Stakes	1,079,583
In the Missions	222,657
Total Membership	1,302,240
 <i>Church Growth during 1954:</i>	
Children blessed in Stakes and Missions	48,057
Children baptized in Stakes and Missions	27,223
Converts baptized in Stakes and Missions	18,573
 <i>Social Statistics:</i>	
(of membership in the Stakes, 1954)	
Birth rate per thousand	39.46
Marriage rate per thousand	8.20
Death rate per thousand	5.46
 <i>Missionaries:</i>	
Number of missionaries who at the close of 1954 were laboring or were enroute to or from their fields of labor	3,868
Number engaged in missionary work in the stakes	6,946
Total missionaries	10,814
Number of missionaries who received training in the Missionary Home during 1954	2,022

II. EXPENDITURES OF THE CHURCH IN 1954

This section will show for each of the major fields of activity, expenditures of CHURCH GENERAL FUNDS, these funds having been received at Church Headquarters principally from the tithes of the Church, and second, expenditures of miscellaneous contributions of the people to the stakes, wards, missions, schools, and other agencies of the Church.

Missions and Missionary Work

For erection, purchase, remodeling, equipping, and repair of meeting houses and other mission buildings and for purchase of building sites:

From Church General Funds	3,477,987
From Other Contributions	1,209,776

For general operating expenses of the missions, including expenses of mission branches; for publicity work and for expenses of bureaus of information; for operation of certain schools in foreign missions; for maintenance of the Missionary Home in Salt Lake City; and for return fares of missionaries:

From Church General Funds	1,684,031
From Other Contributions	748,605
Total Expenditures for Missions and Missionary Work	7,120,399

Stakes and Wards

For erection, purchase, remodeling, equipping, and repair of buildings, and for purchase of building sites:

From Church General Funds	8,264,790
From Other Contributions	7,176,912

For general operating expenses of the stakes and wards, including heat, light, water, janitor expense, supplies, and so forth:

From Church General Funds	3,216,097
From Other Contributions	4,976,595
Total Expenditures for Wards and Stakes	23,634,394

Temples

For erection and equipping of new temples and for improvements and repairs to existing temples:

From Church General Funds	2,808,448
From Other Contributions	265,582

For general operating expenses of the eight temples now in operation:

From Church General Funds	409,114
From Other Contributions	16,157
Total Expenditures for Temples	3,499,301

Church School System

For erection, purchase, remodeling, equipping, and repair of buildings, and for purchase of land:

From Church General Funds	1,462,548
From Other Contributions	246,975

For general operating expenses of Brigham Young University, Ricks College, Juarez Stake Schools, and the institutes of religion and seminaries:

From Church General Funds	3,898,608
From Other Contributions	0
Total Expenditures for the Church School System	5,608,131

Welfare

For erection, purchase, remodeling and repair of bishops' storehouses and other general welfare properties, and for equipment:

From Church General Funds	696,521
From Other Contributions	557,114

For the care of the needy (rents, light, fuel, hospitalization, burials, etc.); for operating expenses of bishops' storehouses; for purchase of commodities and containers and for transportation; and for General Church Welfare Committee Administrative expenses:

From Church General Funds	942,573
From Other Contributions	2,449,476
Total Expenditures for Welfare	4,645,684

Buildings and Grounds

For improvements and repairs to buildings and grounds not included under other headings (Salt Lake Tabernacle, Assembly Hall, Church Administration Building, and nearby buildings and grounds, as well as Church hospitals):

From Church General Funds	331,679
From Other Contributions	177,248
For operating expenses of these general buildings and grounds:	
From Church General Funds	352,619
From Other Contributions	0
Total Expenditures for Buildings and Grounds not Included Elsewhere	861,546

Genealogical Society

For the operation of the genealogical library, archives, temple index bureau, and allied departments; for recording, indexing, photographing and filing genealogical and temple ordinance data, including the names of 661,653 persons forwarded to the temples for ordinances; and for micro-film copies of genealogical records from 5 states and 6 foreign countries equivalent to 75,691 printed volumes of approximately 300 pages per volume:

From Church General Funds	911,903
From Other Contributions	0

Auxiliary Activities

For expenses of the Auxiliary General Boards and of the Primary Children's Hospital:

From Church General Funds	0
From Other Contributions	400,755

Administrative Expenses

For personnel and other costs of operating the general administrative offices of the Church; for the living allowances and traveling expenses of the General Authorities; and for current expenses of special committees:

From Church General Funds	1,765,119
From Other Contributions	0

All Other Activities and Expenses

For taxes, and insurance, and for replenishment of the Church Fire Insurance Fund; for contributions to civic and miscellaneous organizations and causes; and for other purposes:

From Church General Funds	440,591
From Other Contributions	0

Grand Total From Church General Funds	\$30,662,628
Grand Total From Other Contributions	\$18,225,195
Grand Total, Expenditures From Church General Funds And From Other Contributions	\$48,887,823

III. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS*Building Projects*

Of the above Grand Totals, the following amounts were spent for purchase, erection, equipping and repair of buildings, and for building sites:

From Church General Funds	\$17,041,972
From Other Funds Contributed by the People	\$ 9,633,609
Plus: Advances by the Church to Hospitals and Schools for building projects, not included in the foregoing table	\$ 1,096,124
Total Building Project Expenditures	\$27,771,705

Welfare Activities

During the year, the distribution of commodities from Bishops' Storehouses amounted to 8,098,678 pounds of food, 10,089 tons of fuel, and 351,771 items of household supplies, clothing and miscellaneous. This provided assistance to 56,566 persons.

Wednesday, April 6

Fourth Day

The Welfare Plan also provided occupational counseling to 6,706 persons and placed 6,946 persons in remunerative employment during the year. To operate the program and to improve and develop properties, 127,707 man-days of work and the use of equipment amounting to 13,711 unit-days were donated.

At the end of the year, the Deseret Industries had 369 persons working in their plants, 301 of whom were handicapped persons; and the Deseret Clothing Factory provided continuous employment for 58, many of whom were widows and elderly persons.

Missionary Work

In addition to the \$7,120,000 of expenditures for "Missions and Missionary Work" reported in the foregoing table, it is estimated that missionaries, their parents and friends paid out \$2,900,000 for the support of full-time missionaries during the year, bringing total expenditures by the Church and its people for all mission purposes to more than \$10,000,000 in 1954. This total does not include any value for the time and effort given so freely by the missionaries themselves.

President David O. McKay:

Upon the honorable release of President Orton from Tahiti, Elder Larson H. Caldwell has been serving successfully and faithfully as Acting Mission President, who is now succeeded by, as stated, Ellis V. Christensen.

Elder Orval Adams will now read the report of the Church Auditing Committee.

Elder Orval W. Adams of the Church Auditing Committee read the following report:

Salt Lake City, Utah
April 2, 1955

**President David O. McKay
and Counselors,**
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dear Brethren:

The balance sheet, with supporting schedules and statement of revenue and expenditures, disclosing the financial condition of the Corporation of the President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for the year ending December 31, 1954 has been reviewed. The records appear to be adequate and the accounting system carefully kept. We commend those who keep the financial records of the Church, including the ward clerks and their assistants, the stake clerks and their assistants, the mission and branch secretaries for their devoted and efficient service. Disbursement of Church funds is controlled through a comprehensive budget system. The receipts for the year were in excess of the expenditures. The Church is in

strong financial condition and free from debt.

Respectfully submitted,

Orval W. Adams
George S. Spencer
Harold H. Bennett
Church Auditing
Committee

President David O. McKay:

President J. Reuben Clark, Jr. of the First Presidency will now present the General Authorities, General Officers, and General Auxiliary Officers of the Church for the sustaining vote of this General Conference.

We thank the Auditing Committee, the report of which you have just heard from Elder Orval Adams.

President J. Reuben Clark, Jr.:

My brothers and sisters, the ceremony in which we are about to engage is neither casual nor pro forma. As members of the Church you are about to exercise one of the highest privileges which as mere members you have, that of sustaining those who are to preside over you. It is a ceremony which should be approached with the spirit of reverence, devotion and prayer.

President Clark then presented for the vote of the people the General Authorities, General Officers, and General Auxiliary Officers of the Church, and they were unanimously sustained by those present. The list as presented and sustained is as follows: